

SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK									A5312									TRICKY									B5312								
6		8				3	5												2					8											
4	7												9													9	5	2							
				9																															
						3				2	6	7																							
					3	1							2	8																					
9							8																												
		4	6																																
3	1	2					7																												

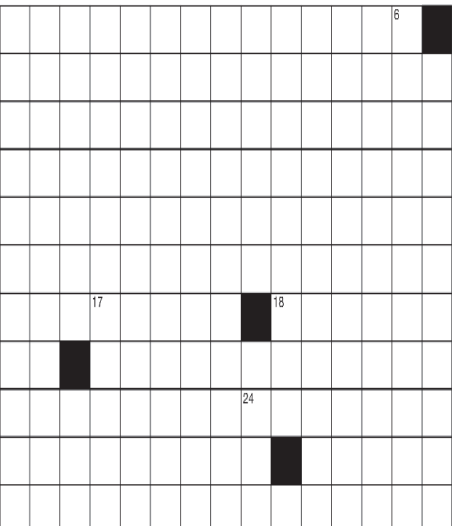
To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Ritmeester (C) PZZL.com

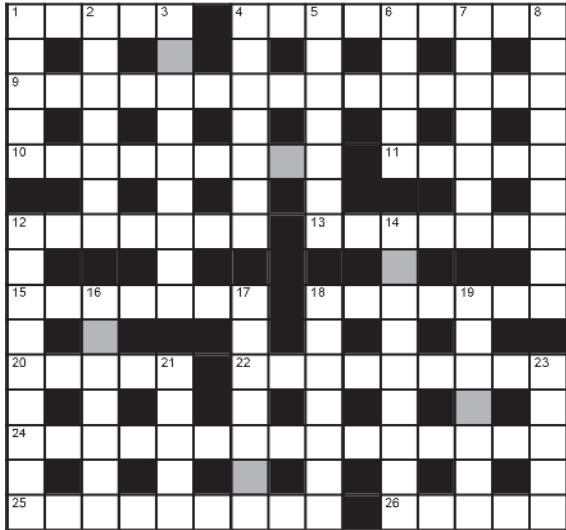
- ACROSS
- 1 Eyeliners involved hassle
 - 2 Second lair, note, in Italy
 - 7 Lack of muscles on fencer's body
 - 9 Even sadder leaders in tune...
 - 11 ...hold forth about core value
 - 13 Wild and revolutionary poem improvised
 - 14 Nearly complete qualification
 - 15 Failure the Spanish and Germans share
 - 16 Plant twisted tree without effort
 - 18 After Bill, maybe Dennis proposes
 - 20 Second opinion held interest
 - 22 Peer with regular title on paper
 - 24 Popular, like, but it's early days
 - 25 Children around an animal (Hyphenated)
 - 26 Channel Four in disguise, say

- DOWN
- 1 ID one has to borrow
 - 2 Material girl Des made single
 - 3 Get closer to weather forecaster
 - 4 German with a shirt or glove
 - 5 After relaxation, many stand
 - 6 Reinforced wheels?
 - 8 Best murmur lovingly in case
 - 10 To understand this clue is to inspire
 - 12 A seat back-to-front puzzled
 - 17 Adding weight to 21 Down is an improvement
 - 19 Bishop least likely to criticise
 - 21 Wooden frame of artwork with a note on it
 - 22 Royal family beginning to gather

THE SKELETON CROSSWORD

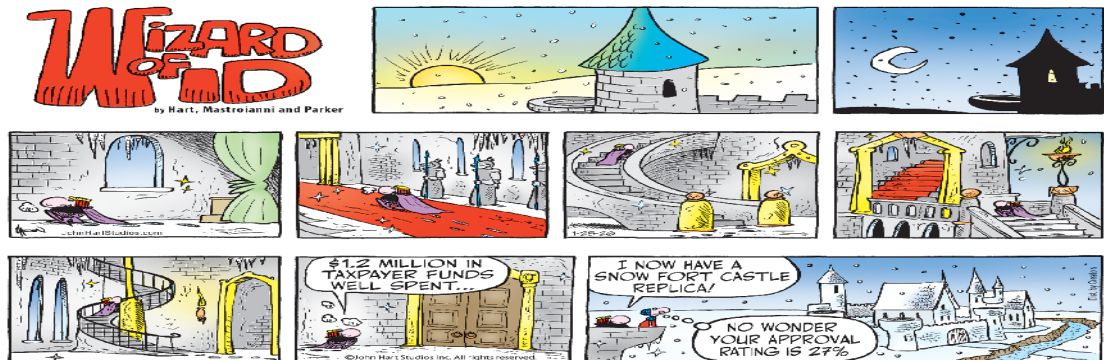
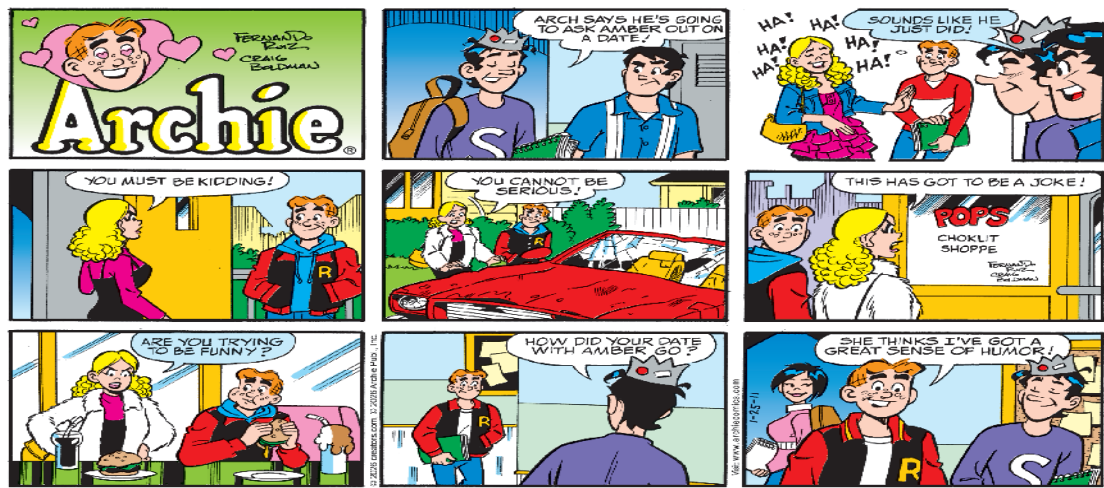
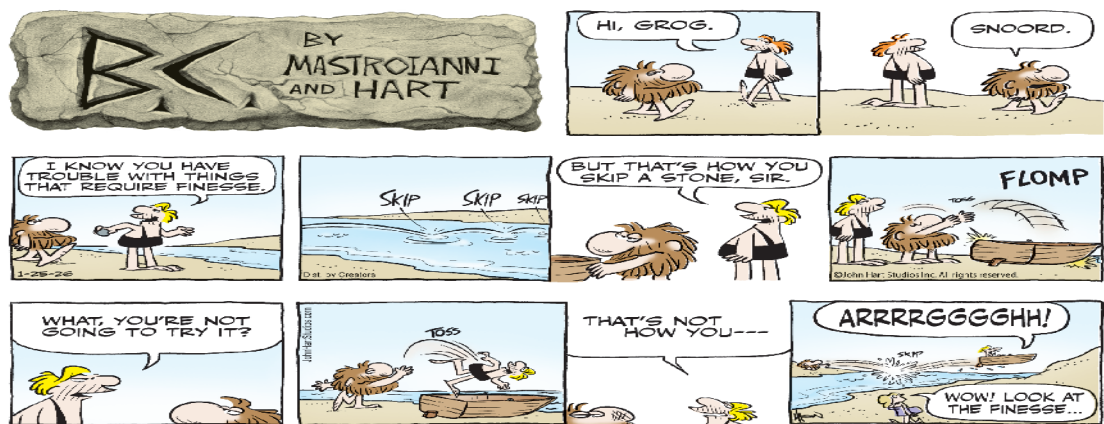


THE SQUIRE'S CROSSWORD

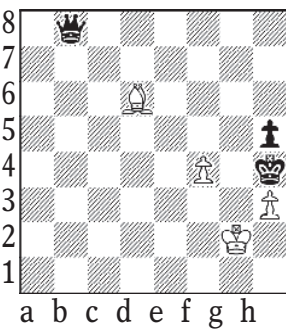


- ACROSS
- 1 Civet relative (5)
 - 4 Learning (7,2)
 - 9 Minus taxes etc. (5,10)
 - 10 Heroic actions (7)
 - 11 US farm (5)
 - 12 Arthurian knight (7)
 - 13 Other halves (7)
 - 15 Ennui, apathy (7)
 - 18 Grapple (7)
 - 20 Forger's metal block (5)
 - 22 Egalitarian (9)
 - 24 Think beyond now (4,3,4,4)
 - 25 Rising again (9)
 - 26 Capital of Japan (5)
- DOWN
- 1 Stately (5)
 - 2 To be expected (7)
 - 3 Besmirched (9)
 - 4 Promised (7)
 - 5 Vouchers (7)
 - 6 Lay to rest (5)
 - 7 Dregs, as of coffee (7)
 - 8 With all speed (9)
 - 12 British dependency bordering Spain (9)
 - 14 Supervision (9)
 - 16 Abrogates (7)
 - 17 Large heavy knife (7)
 - 18 Fatigue (4,3)
 - 19 Prison (3,4)
 - 21 Subsequently (5)
 - 23 Took care of (3,2)

THE METRO FUNNIES



CHESS



WHITE'S BEST MOVE?
HINT: Not Bxb8.

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Saxe

▼ TODAY'S WORD
LIGNEOUS

(LIGNEOUS: LIG-nee-us: Of or resembling wood.)

AVERAGE MARK 49 WORDS
Time limit 60 minute
Can you find 66 or more words in LIGNEOUS?

- RULES OF THE GAME:
1. Words must be of four or more letters.
 2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s", such as "bats" or "dies", are not allowed.
 3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used.
 4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.
- The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

YESTERDAY'S WORD — SOPHOMORIC			
scoop	pooh	miso	chomp
scrim	poor	mooch	chop
scrim	porch	moor	ohio
shim	posh	morph	coil
ship	prim	mosh	comp
shoo	primo	rich	coop
shop	prism	romp	corm
shrimp	prom	room	corps
smirch	promo	chimp	crimp
smooch	hoop	chip	crisp
spoor	hops	chirp	crop
oomph	micro	choir	

TELEWORD

By David Ouellet

T	P	S	B	U	H	R	R	A	S	E	K	O	J	
S	E	E	S	W	E	N	I	D	S	T	U	O	C	S
S	E	L	R	Z	L	A	D	S	A	M	U	S	I	C
G	P	G	E	C	P	R	G	D	A	R	E	D	R	O
N	U	E	A	V	E	N	C	A	N	C	E	L	E	N
I	R	B	U	S	I	N	E	S	S	E	S	M	E	N
F	C	R	S	T	S	T	C	W	B	P	Z	A	E	
E	H	T	A	H	C	E	I	M	E	O	O	T	I	C
I	A	R	D	D	U	E	M	O	R	O	R	S	R	T
R	S	A	P	A	N	T	R	Y	N	K	T	I	E	S
B	E	L	N	C	M	E	G	S	D	S	S	L	H	T
R	R	A	E	H	U	B	L	U	E	T	O	O	T	H
O	O	R	A	C	T	O	R	A	L	L	A	C	A	G
O	C	M	E	D	E	A	L	S	C	P	R	K	E	I
D	S	N	O	I	T	A	M	R	O	F	N	I	W	L

HOW TO PLAY:

All the words above appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and circle their letters. The leftover letters spell the Teleword.

'ALEXA' COMMANDS

Actor, Address, Alarm, Answer, Bluetooth, Books, Briefings, Businesses, Calendar, Call, Camera, Cancel, Chat, Connect, Date, Deals, Door, Freezer, Help, Hubs, Information, Jokes, Lights, List, Lock, Math, Messages, Music, News, Order, Pair, Pantry, Percent, Plug, Purchase, Ratings, Read, Science, Scores, Scouts, Snooze, Sports, Television, Unmute, Weather

SOLUTION: 8 LETTERS

Reminder

PENTALETTA

P		I
	O	
S		L

Can you find 25 or more words containing only the five letters shown on the left? Each word must include the letter in the centre, in this case O, and must contain at least four letters, but there is no limit on the number of times you can use a letter in any word. Your list should include an accepted eight-letter word.

(Solution: next Sunday)

Average mark: 26 words • Good: 32 words

Excellent: 38 words • Incredible: 42 words

LAST SUNDAY'S SOLUTION: appal, apparel, appeal, appear, apple, earlap, epee, lapel, leap, leaper, leper, paelia, pale, paler, pall, palp, papa, papal, paper, paperer, para, pare, parer, parr, pear, pearl, pearler, peel, peeler, peep, peeper, peer, pepper, plea, prep, prepare, preparer, rape, rappel, rapper, reap, reaper, reappear, repeal, repel, repeller, repp.

The clued word was: PARALLEL

LAST SUNDAY SQUIRE'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Basis, 4 Moustache, 9 Woman of the cloth, 10 Skinfint, 11 Totem, 12 Despots, 13 Hauteur, 15 Vapidly, 18 Restful, 20 Lilac, 22 Nightwear, 24 Pick up the pieces, 25 Disasters, 26 Giddy.

Down: 1 Bowls, 2 Summits, 3 Sangfroid, 4 Muffins, 5 Unhitch, 6 Tacit, 7 Chorlie, 8 Ephemeral, 12 Developed, 14 Upsetting, 16 Polices, 17 Yangtze, 18 Regress, 19 Fleeced, 21 Coups, 23 Raspy.

Prize word: Attire

LAST SUNDAY SKELETON SOLUTIONS

1	I	N	2	N	5	E			4	I	C	6	A	R	U	S	7
G	I	O				H			A	H	O						
10	N	O	T	A	B	L	E		11	C	R	O	Q	U	E	T	
O	R	Y			12	A	R	T	W		T						
18	R	U	E									16	T	E	L	L	
				14	O	B	S	T		I	N	A	T	E			
17	M	O	S		19	T					A	R	U	M			
	10																
				21	A	B											
					22	C	U	E									
24	S	L	A	V	I	S	H		25	L	E	X	I	C	O	N	
E	I	V	I	N	E												
26	S	I	N	B	A	D											
									27	G	L	A	D	E	S		

TODAY'S SOLUTIONS

CHESS

Simply 1. Be7 mate! as 1. Bxb8(?) stalemates the Black king. .

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU

Quick — A5311	8	5	9	2	6	7	3	4	1
1	4	1	6	8	3	9	5	2	7
2	7	3	5	1	4	9	8	6	
3	6	3	1	4	8	5	2	7	9
4	9	8	4	1	7	2	6	5	3
5	2	7	6	9	3	8	1	4	
6	3	9	5	7	2	1	4	6	8
7	1	4	8	9	5	6	7	3	2
8	7	6	2	3	4	8	1	9	5
Tricky — B5311	5	3	8	4	2	6	7	1	9
1	4	2	1	9	7	8	6	3	5
2	9	7	6	1	3	5	8	4	2
3	2	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	1
4	6	1	9	5	6	4	2	7	3
5	2	7	6	9	3	8	1	4	
6	3	9	5	7	2	1	4	6	8
7	9	3	2	4	1	5	8	6	
8	6	5	2	3	8	7	1	9	4
9	1	8	4	6	5	9	3	2	7

METRO EVENTS

PLAYS



Bohut Ho Gai Begum, a play, is staged as part of the Awami Theatre Festival, at Auditorium II, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 6pm.

Tujh Pay Qurban, a play, is staged as part of the Awami Theatre Festival, at Auditorium II, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 8pm.

MEDICAL CAMPS

A free gastroenterology camp is held at Memon Medical Institute Hospital, Hyder Buksh Gabol Road, Safoora Chowrangi, Scheme 33, from 11am to 2pm.

A free orthopaedic camp is held at Memon Medical Institute Hospital, PMJ Squair, Block 14, Federal B. Area, from 11am to 2pm.

CAR SHOW

An 'Antique Cars Show' is held at Frere Hall from 10am to 5:30pm.



HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

♈ ARIES | March 21-April 19

** Today is the classic day for arguments and disagreements, which means you need to bite your tongue. In particular, you might be concerned or annoyed about financial issues with a friend or a group. Maybe you feel taken advantage of. Tonight: Check your belongings. This Week: You want results.

♉ TAURUS | April 20-May 20

** Today the Moon is in your sign at odds with Mars, Pluto and then the Sun. This means it's an emotionally stressful day for you. You'll feel like Snidely Whiplash. "Curses, foiled again!" Tonight: You win! This Week: Management will listen.

♊ GEMINI | May 21-June 20

** Be smart and steer clear of controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues. They will quickly mushroom into arguments and disagreements. You need this like a fish needs a bicycle. Mums the word. Tonight: Solitude. This Week: Travel, explore, learn, publish.

♋ CANCER | June 21-July 22

*** A disagreement with a friend or a member of a group, perhaps about spending a set amount of money, or about returning items, borrowing items or using shared property, might arise today. Steer clear of the nasties! Tonight: Friendships. This Week: An aroused idealism might change your goals.

♌ LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

** Today the Moon is at the top of your chart at odds with a gaggle of planets directly opposite you. This means it will be easy to get into an argument with someone who is close to you. Keep your head down and your powder dry. Tonight: You're noticed. This Week: Dreams about travel, publishing, medicine, the law and higher education.

♍ VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

*** Avoid controversial subjects, especially if you're talking to work colleagues or health care workers. The key is to be patient. Ignore areas that look problematic. Tonight: Explore! This Week: Work to improve your health.

♎ LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

*** You like harmony in your surroundings, despite the fact that you're an excellent debater. This is the classic day for arguments with romantic partners. Don't focus on silly details. Tonight: Check your finances. This Week: Express your creativity. Enjoy!

♏ SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

** Today be patient with partners, spouses and close friends, as well as family members, to avoid irritable bickering and outright arguments. Anger only makes everyone miserable. You know this. I know this. We know this. Everyone knows this. Tonight: Cooperate. This Week: Improve and tweak your home.

♐ SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

** Steer clear of work-related disagreements today. It's not worth it. Others might feel annoyed with people about different situations, perhaps related to a pet or medical care. Tonight: Work. This Week: Study, learn, short trips and mucho conversations!

♑ CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

*** Parents need to be patient with their kids today, especially about money, possessions and the ownership of something. Cut others some slack in order to keep the peace with everyone. Don't make a big deal about something. Let it go. Tonight: Play! This Week: Make plans to secure your home.

♒ AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

** Today you might relax at home, or you might feel annoyed with a family member. Patience will be your best friend. With Mars in your sign, you're a bit aggressive. Keep this in mind. Fortunately, Venus in your sign will make you charming and diplomatic. Tonight: Relax. This Week: You're energetic, empowered and charismatic!

♓ PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

*** Steer clear of disagreements with daily contacts, siblings and relatives today. The Moon is at odds with three planets, which can trigger arguments, snide remarks and even cruel retorts. Don't go there. Tonight: Discussions. This Week: Getting serious about financial independence.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

A very unusual play

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ J 9
♥ K 3
♦ 10 8 5 2
♣ A J 9 7 4
WEST
♠ K 3
♥ Q 10 8 5
♦ K Q J 9 6
♣ Q 2
EAST
♠ A 6
♥ A 9 7 2
♦ 7 4 3
♣ K 10 8 6 3
SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 8 7 5 4 2
♥ J 6 4
♦ A
♣ 5

The bidding:
South West North East
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead -- king of diamonds.
Let's say you're in four spades and West leads the king of diamonds, taken by you with the ace. There are many lines of play to choose from, and your job is to find the one that offers the best chance for the contract.

You could, for example, lead a club to the ace and try a spade finesse. If East had the king, you'd have 10 solid tricks, while even if the finesse lost, you'd still make the contract if West started with the ace of hearts.

Alternatively, you could lead a heart to the king at trick two and still have several chances to succeed even if the king lost to the ace.